



General Assembly

February Session, 2006

Raised Bill No. 377

LCO No. 2107

* ____SB00377ED____031506____*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE CONNECTICUT TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2006*) Not later than January 30,
2 2007, and annually thereafter, the State Board of Education shall
3 prepare a summary report concerning the regional vocational-technical
4 school system and shall submit the report to the joint standing
5 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
6 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-
7 4a of the general statutes. The report shall include information on (1)
8 school capacity, (2) enrollment by grade and gender and the
9 enrollment of special education students, English language learners
10 and adults, (3) staffing, (4) financial information such as expenditures
11 and needs for capital improvements, capital equipment and
12 operations, (5) the strategic school profile for the school district, (6) the
13 trades offered including information describing the trades
14 reauthorized each year, (7) major changes in programs and enrollment,
15 and (8) joint activities with institutions of higher education and other
16 state agencies.

17 Sec. 2. Section 10-95i of the general statutes is repealed and the
18 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2006*):

19 [(a) Not later than January 1, 1990, and every five years thereafter,
20 the State Board of Education shall adopt a long-range plan of priorities
21 and goals for the regional vocational-technical school system. The plan
22 shall address coordination with other providers of vocational,
23 technical or technological education or training and shall include (1) an
24 analysis of the activities described in subsections (b) and (c) of this
25 section and how such activities relate to the long-range plan of
26 priorities and goals, and (2) a summary of activities related to capital
27 improvements and equipment pursuant to subsection (d) of this
28 section. Upon adoption of the plan, the state board shall file the plan
29 with the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having
30 cognizance of matters relating to education, finance, revenue and
31 bonding and appropriations and the budgets of state agencies. The
32 state board shall use the plan in preparing its five-year comprehensive
33 plan pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-4.]

34 [(b)] [a] During the five-year period beginning January 1, 1990, and
35 during each five-year period thereafter, the State Board of Education
36 shall evaluate each existing regional vocational-technical school trade
37 program in accordance with a schedule which the state board shall
38 establish. A trade program may be reauthorized for a period of not
39 more than five years following each evaluation on the basis of: The
40 projected employment demand for students enrolled in the trade
41 program, including consideration of the employment of graduates of
42 the program during the preceding five years; anticipated technological
43 changes; the availability of qualified instructors; the existence of
44 similar programs at other educational institutions; and student interest
45 in the trade program. As part of the evaluation, the state board shall
46 consider geographic differences that may make a trade program
47 feasible at one school and not another and whether certain
48 combinations of program offerings shall be required. Prior to any final
49 decision on the reauthorization of a trade program, the state board

50 shall consult with the craft committees for the trade program being
51 evaluated.

52 [(c)] (b) The state board shall consider the addition of new trade
53 programs. Decisions by the state board to add such programs shall at a
54 minimum be based on the projected employment demand for
55 graduates of the program, the cost of establishing the program, the
56 availability of qualified instructors, the existence of similar programs
57 at other educational institutions and the interest of students in the
58 trade. The state board shall authorize new trade programs for a
59 maximum of five years. The state board shall provide a process for the
60 public, including, but not limited to, employers, parents, students or
61 teachers, to request consideration of the establishment of a new trade
62 program.

63 [(d) The State Board of Education shall maintain a rolling five-year
64 capital improvement and capital equipment plan that identifies: (1)
65 Alterations, renovations and repairs that each vocational-technical
66 school is expected to need, including, but not limited to, grounds and
67 athletic fields, heating and ventilation systems, wiring, roofs, and
68 windows, and the cost of such projects, (2) recommendations for
69 energy efficiency improvements to each school and the cost of such
70 improvements, and (3) the specific equipment each regional
71 vocational-technical school is expected to need, based on the useful life
72 of existing equipment and projections of changing technology and the
73 estimated cost of the equipment. The State Board of Education shall
74 submit such plan, annually, to the joint standing committees of the
75 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education,
76 finance, revenue and bonding and appropriations and the budgets of
77 state agencies.]

78 Sec. 3. Subsection (c) of section 10-4 of the general statutes is
79 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
80 *1, 2006*):

81 (c) Said board shall prepare every five years a five-year

82 comprehensive plan for elementary, secondary, vocational, career and
 83 adult education, and the regional vocational-technical school system.
 84 Said comprehensive plan shall include, but not be limited to, a policy
 85 statement of the State Board of Education's long-term goals and short-
 86 term objectives, an analysis of cost implications and measurement
 87 criteria and how said board's programs and operations relate to such
 88 goals and objectives and specific action plans, target dates and
 89 strategies and methods of implementation for achieving such goals
 90 and objectives. The State Board of Education shall establish every five
 91 years an advisory committee to assist the board in the preparation of
 92 the comprehensive plan. Members of the advisory committee shall be
 93 appointed by the State Board of Education with representation on the
 94 committee to include, but not be limited to, representatives of the
 95 Connecticut Advisory Council on Vocational and Career Education,
 96 education organizations, parent organizations, student organizations,
 97 business and industry, organized labor and appropriate state agencies.
 98 [Notwithstanding any requirement for submission of a plan for the
 99 fiscal year ending June 30, 1984, pursuant to section 10-96a of the
 100 general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1983, the State
 101 Board of Education shall not be required to submit the master plan for
 102 vocational and career education but shall submit, pursuant to
 103 subsection (b) of this section, the comprehensive plan for elementary
 104 and secondary, vocational, career and adult education to the Governor
 105 and the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having
 106 cognizance of matters relating to education on or before September 1,
 107 1996, and every five years thereafter provided, the master plan
 108 currently in effect shall remain in effect until the comprehensive plan is
 109 submitted.] The State Board of Education shall be responsible for
 110 annually updating the progress in implementing the goals and
 111 objectives of the comprehensive plan and shall report on such progress
 112 to the Governor and to said standing committee annually. The State
 113 Board of Education shall provide opportunity for public comment
 114 prior to its adoption of a plan.

115 Sec. 4. Sections 10-95h, 10-95j and 10-95k of the general statutes are

116 repealed. (*Effective July 1, 2006*)

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	10-95i
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	10-4(c)
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2006</i>	Repealer section

ED *Joint Favorable*